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4PM-CIA-ITALY;400

MILAN, ITALY (AP) - FORMER CIA CHIEF WILLIAM COLBY WAS QUOTED TODAY AS SAYING THE CIA FUNNELED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO ITALY'S CENTRIST PARTIES INCLUDING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO BALANCE SOVIET FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

AMERICAN AID FROM 1948 THROUGH 1958 WAS "ONE OF THE MOST COSTLY POLITICAL SECRET ACTIONS EVER CARRIED OUT BY THE CIA IN A WESTERN COUNTRY," COLBY TOLD THE MILAN WEEKLY MAGAZINE EUROPEO IN AN INTERVIEW.

THE MAGAZINE ALSO QUOTED HIM AS SAYING THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST RED BRIGADES - KILLERS OF FORMER PREMIER ALDO MORO - MAY HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

"WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE BUT FOR SURE THE SOVIET UNION IN THE PAST TRAINED EUROPEAN, KOREAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARIES," COLBY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. "IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY HAD ITS SECRET OPERATORS; IN ADDITION TO THE LEGAL ONES AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FOLLOWING THE NEW COMMUNIST POLICY, THE FORMER SECRET OPERATORS NOW ACT AS LOOSE DOGS; MORE AND MORE VIOLENT AND DESPERATE."

RED BRIGADES TERRORISTS KIDNAPPED MORO IN A BLOODY ROME AMBUSH MARCH 16 IN WHICH HIS FIVE BODYGUARDS WERE KILLED. MORO, CHIEF OF THE RULING CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WAS KILLED AFTER THE GOVERNMENT REFUSED RED BRIGADES DEMANDS THAT JAILED TERRORISTS BE TRADED FOR HIM. HIS BULLET-RIDDLED BODY WAS FOUND IN A CAR ON A ROME STREET MAY 9.

COLBY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING U.S. AID WENT NOT ONLY TO POLITICAL PARTIES BUT TO "ANTI-COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS WHEREVER A COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION EXISTED; INCLUDING SOME TRADE UNIONS."

HE SAID THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY MADE SUGGESTIONS ON HOW THE MONEY MIGHT BE SPENT; "BUT WE GENERALLY GRANTED WIDE LIBERTY TO USE THE FUND."

(over)

COLBY, WHO WORKED AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN ROME IN THE 1950s, SAID THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT WAS AIMED AT KEEPING "ITALY WITHIN NATO AND THE WESTERN DEMOCRATIC LINE."

INTERVIEWED IN NEW YORK BY A EUROPEO CORRESPONDENT; HE SAID; "MOSCOW SPENT IN ITALY MORE THAN \$50 MILLION A YEAR; AN ENORMOUS FIGURE; HELPING THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND ITS ORGANIZATIONS. MONEY PASSED THROUGH THE EASTERN (EUROPEAN) EMBASSIES IN ROME . . . AND WAS USED FOR FINANCING ANY KIND OF COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA AND ORGANIZATION."

ITALIAN COMMUNISTS, WHO FOLLOW A POLICY OF INDEPENDENCE FROM MOSCOW, CAME IN SECOND BEHIND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS IN THE LAST NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN JUNE 1976 AND HAVE JOINED A PARLIAMENTARY COALITION SUPPORTING THE RULING PARTY.

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(COLBY)

(RELEASE AT 630 PM, EDT)

CHICAGO (UPI) - FORMER CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM COLBY TOLD PLAYBOY MAGAZINE IT WOULD BE "MORAL" FOR THE UGANDAN PEOPLE TO KILL PRESIDENT IOI AMIN AND THE CIA COULD MORALLY AID IN THE ASSASSINATION, IT WAS DISCLOSED TODAY.

IN AN INTERVIEW IN PLAYBOY'S JULY ISSUE, COLBY SAID HE BELIEVED, "IF A MAN IS A TOTAL TYRANT, THEN SOMEBODY UNDER HIM HAS THE RIGHT TO SHOOT HIM.

"BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN A SEPARATE COUNTRY HAS A RIGHT TO DO IT. IF I AM BEING OPPRESSED BY SOMEONE - MY FAMILY HAS BEEN DESTROYED, I'VE BEEN SENT TO JAIL AND ALL THE REST - THEN I HAVE THE RIGHT TO RESPOND."

HE NOTED, AS AN EXAMPLE, IT WOULD BE A "MORAL ACT" FOR THE UGANDAN PEOPLE TO KILL AMIN.

ASKED IF THE CIA WOULD ENCOURAGE SUCH ACT, COLBY RESPONDED:

"NO, THAT'S DIFFERENT...BUT HELPING THEM IN WHAT THEY WANT TO DO? THERE IT WOULD BE MORAL IF THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE UNITED STATES COULD SOMEHOW BE RELATED TO IT."

COLBY DOUBTED AMIN WOULD "DIE A NATURAL DEATH."

"THAT'S A PREDICTION," HE SAID. "I'M NOT SAYING THAT WE'RE GOING TO DO ANYTHING," EMPHASIZING THE WORD "DO." HE DECLINED TO SAY WHETHER THE CIA HAD AGENTS IN UGANDA.

HE CALLED THE CIA THE "BEST INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN THE WORLD" AND DISMISSED A CONGRESSIONAL REPORT THAT CRITICIZED THE AGENCY AS OUTRAGEOUS, SAYING IT WAS NO MORE THAN A COLLECTION OF THE AGENCY'S OWN "INTERNAL POST-MORTEMS."

COLBY DESCRIBED CIA INVOLVEMENT IN THE OVERTHROW OF CHILE'S SALVADOR ALLENDE AS LIMITED TO "SOME LITTLE, MINOR PROPAGANDA ACTIVITY" AND SAID THE AGENCY'S PENCHANT FOR DEVELOPING MACABRE NEW WEAPONS WAS MERELY "BUREAUCRATIC MOMENTUM."

"YOU SET UP A LITTLE GROUP THAT'S RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING WEAPONS AND IT'LL DEVELOP A LOT OF WEAPONS," HE SAID.

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